

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

December 11, 2001

IN RE:

**TENNESSEE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION PETITION FOR
EXEMPTION OF VOICE MESSAGING
SERVICE FROM REGULATION**

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**DOCKET NO.
00-00823**

ORDER APPOINTING A PRE-HEARING OFFICER

This matter is before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon a Petition filed by the Tennessee Telecommunications Association ("TTA") seeking an exemption of Voice Messaging Service from regulation, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-208(b). At a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on July 24, 2001, the Directors considered the TTA's Petition for the purpose of appointing a Pre-Hearing Officer.

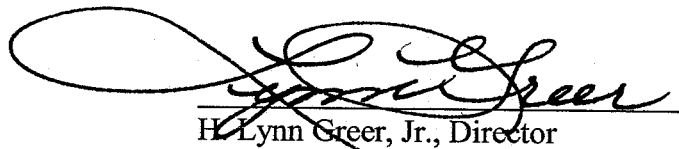
At that Authority Conference, the Directors discussed whether to convene a contested case proceeding or to act on the Petition. The Directors unanimously voted not to convene a contested case at this time and, instead, to appoint General Counsel or his designee to act as the Pre-Hearing Officer for the purpose of resolving any issues preliminary to convening a contested case and reporting to the Directors as to whether or not a contested case should be convened.

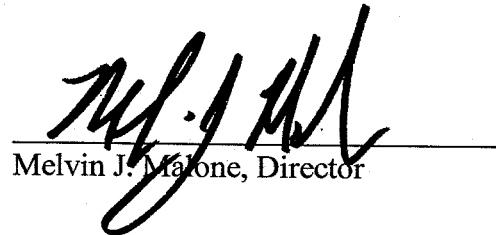
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The General Counsel or his designee is appointed as Pre-Hearing Officer in this matter for the purpose of resolving any issues preliminary to convening a contested case

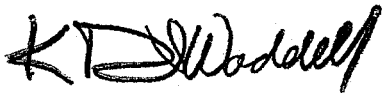
and reporting to the Directors as to whether or not the Authority should convene a contested case. The Pre-Hearing Officer shall also handle all procedural matters incidental or related to the resolution of such preliminary issues.


Sara Kyle, Chairman


H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director


Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:


K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary